HOUSE No. 1707

By Mr. Casey of Winchester, petition of Paul C. Casey and others relative to the awarding of high school diplomas for certain veterans of World War II and the Korean War. Veterans and Federal Affairs.

The Commonwealth of Massachusetts

PETITION OF:

Paul C. Casey Anne M. Gobi Karyn E. Polito

In the Year Two Thousand and Five.

AN ACT CONCERNING HIGH SCHOOL DIPLOMAS AND VETERANS OF WORLD WAR II AND THE KOREAN WAR.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Court assembled, and by the authority of the same, as follows:

- 1 Section 4 of chapter 71 of the General Laws, as appearing in
- 2 the 2002 Official Edition, is hereby amended by adding at the end
- 3 thereof the following new paragraph:—
- 4 Notwithstanding the provisions of any general or special law to
- 5 the contrary, school committees may award diplomas to any
- 6 World War II veteran or Korean War veteran, as defined in
- 7 clause 43 of section 7 of chapter 4, who resides in a municipality
- 8 whose residents currently attend the high school maintained by
- 9 said school committee, who withdrew from the public school
- 10 system prior to graduation from high school in order to serve in
- 11 the armed forces of the United States or the National Civilian
- 12 Conservation Corps or who entered active wartime service within
- 13 four years immediately following the date of withdrawal from the
- 14 public school system, who did not receive a high school diploma
- 15 as a consequence of such service, and who was honorably dis-
- 16 charged from the armed services. The department of education
- 17 and the department of veterans' services shall jointly promulgate

- 18 guidelines for the identification of eligible veterans by school dis-
- 19 tricts and for the awarding of such diplomas by school commit-
- 20 tees.